

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: Unknown)
Filing Date: Unknown)
Priority Date: 28 June 2000)
Applicant: MATEY, Jesus)
For: BROADCAST DATA RECEIVER WITH)
DUAL TUNING CAPABILITY)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director For Patents
Box: New Application
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is a preliminary amendment to the enclosed application entitled "Broadcast Data Receiver With Dual Tuning Capability" claiming priority to British Patent Application No. 0015661.2 filed 28 June 2000.

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, after the title insert the following header and paragraph "**CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION** This application claims priority to British Patent Application No. 0015661.2 filed 28 June 2000.";

Page 1, prior to the first paragraph, add the Header "**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**"; line 4, change "programme" to --program--; line 17 change "utilising" to --utilizing--; line 26, add the Header "**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**".

Page 2, lines 2 and 20, change "customised" to --customized--; lines 7 and 17, change

"characterised" to --characterized--.

Page 3, line 12, change "programmes" to --programs--; lines 16 and 18, change "programmes" to --programs--; line 24 change "canbe" to --can be--; insert "British Broadcasting Corporation" after the word "likes"; line 25, change "theypress" to --they press--; line 27 change "with" to --which--.

Page 4, lines 7 and 8 change "programme" to --program--; before line 19, add the Header: **"DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS";**

Page 5, before the first line add the Header: **"DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS".**

Page 7, lines 3 and 21, change "programme" to --program--; line 11 change "customised" to --customized--.

Page 8, lines 6 and 9 change "programme" to --program--.

Page 9, add the new following paragraph after the last line --While the invention has been described with a certain degree of particularity, it is manifest that many changes may be made in the details of construction and the arrangement of components without departing from the spirit and scope of this disclosure. It is understood that the invention is not limited to the embodiments set forth herein for purposes of exemplification, but is to be limited only by the scope of the attached claim or claims, including the full range of equivalency to which each element thereof is entitled.--

In the Claims:

1. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver, said broadcast data receiver [including] comprising: at least two tuners, each of said tuners controllable to receive a user selectable data

transmission independent of the other and [characterised in that] wherein the user can select to combine the data transmission from the first tuner with the data transmission from the at least second tuner to provide a [customised] customized merged data output.

2. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 [characterised in that] wherein [the] said data transmissions selected are from at least two different data providers.

3. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver according to [claim 1 or] claim 2 [characterised in that the] wherein said data transmissions selected relate to the same event.

4. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 [characterised in that] wherein one of [the] said data transmissions is data relating to an audio channel and [the] said at least other data transmission is data relating to a video channel.

5. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver according to claim 4 [characterised in that] wherein the first tuner is controlled to select a channel which has both audio and video components and the second tuner is controlled to select a second channel which has an audio only output, and which audio output can be overlayed to replace the audio output of the first channel, such that a viewer can watch the video output from the first channel in combination with the audio output from the second channel.

6. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 [characterised in that] wherein the two data transmissions can be merged for output at the time of selection.

7. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 [characterised in that] the two data transmissions can be merged and transmitted to a storage medium/memory in or communicating with the broadcast data receiver.

8. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver according to claim 7 [characterised in that] wherein the storage medium can be selected from the group consisting of [include] a hard disk of the receiver, and a video cassette recorder [and/or the like].

9. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 [characterised in that] one of [the] said tuners can be selected to receive a data transmission in the form of an internet signal and the data received via the internet signal can be combined with the data transmission from [the] said other tuner.

10. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 [characterised in that] wherein the user selectable data transmissions are selected from an electronic [programme] program guide [comprising] including text and other matter generated by the broadcast data receiver and relating to [programme] program, data and/or service information.

11. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 [characterised in that] wherein one of [the] said data transmissions includes a default teletext service relating to a particular channel, and [the] said other data transmission relates to a different channel, such that the default teletext service can be merged with a different channel irrespective of whether there is already a teletext service available for that different channel.

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12. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 [characterised in that] wherein an audio video receiver decoder is shared in both tuners and the user can selectively chose elementary streams of the data transmission[, such as] from the group consisting of audio, video and[/or] teletext[, can be selectively chosen by the user].

13. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver, said broadcast data receiver [including] comprising: at least two tuners, each of said tuners controllable to receive a user selectable video and/or audio channel, independent of the other and [characterised in that] wherein the user can select to combine audio or video from a first channel from the first tuner with the other of audio or video from the second channel from the second tuner to provide a [customised] customized video and audio output.

14. (Amended) An electronic [programme] program guide generated from data received from a broadcast data receiver at continuous or regular intervals, said electronic [programme] program guide [(EPG)] comprising text and other display material which is generated on screen and which text can act both as information for [programmes] programs and services which are available to the user and selection means to allow a user to select, typically using a remote control device, [programmes] programs to watch and/or other functions relating to the use of the broadcast data receiver, [characterised in that] wherein the electronic program guide [EPG] facilitates the user selection of independently controllable tuners in the broadcast data receiver to allow merging of data transmissions relating to different channels or user selections.

REMARKS

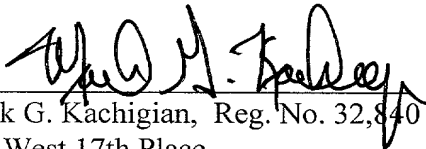
Attached are the marked up versions of the claims and new paragraphs as required in Section 1.121(4) (ii).

The application should now be in condition for examination, which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted

HEAD, JOHNSON & KACHIGIAN

Dated: 21 June 2001

BY: 
Mark G. Kachigian, Reg. No. 32,840
228 West 17th Place
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74119
(918) 584-4187
Attorneys for Applicant

036644.0310
TULSA, OKLAHOMA

New Header and paragraphs to be inserted on Page 1, before line 1:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application claims priority to British Patent Application No. 0015661.2 filed 28 June 2000.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The invention to which this application relates is a broadcast data receiver which is provided to allow the reception of digital data. The digital data is broadcast from a remote location, typically by a television program broadcaster or other service provider and, from the broadcast location, the data is transmitted to a plurality of said broadcast data receivers at a number of different locations. Once transmitted, the digital data can be carried via a number of different type of networks, namely satellite, cable or terrestrial data broadcast systems. However in each case, the broadcast data receiver is provided for use at each premises in conjunction with a means for receiving the data and the broadcast data receiver then undertakes the decoding of the data; processing of the same and the subsequent generation of audio, video and/or auxiliary data, typically via speakers and the display screen which can in one embodiment be combined such that the broadcast data receiver is provided as an integral part of or is connected to a television set.

In due course it is envisaged that the utilization of broadcast digital data receivers of this type will be commonplace, if not compulsory in that this will be the only manner in which broadcast data representing television programmes will be transmitted to viewers.

New paragraph Header to be inserted into Page 1 before line 26:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Replacement paragraphs for page 2

of each of said tuners so as to allow selected outputs from said tuners to be combined to provide a customized audio and video output from the broadcast output receiver.

In a first aspect of the invention there is provided a broadcast data receiver, said receiver including at least two tuners, each of said tuners controllable to receive a user selectable data transmission independent of the other and characterized in that the user can select to combine the data transmission from the first tuner with the data transmission from the at least second tuner to provide a customised merged data output.

In a second aspect of the invention there is provided a broadcast data receiver, said receiver including at least two tuners, each of said tuners controllable to receive a user selectable video and/or audio channel, independent of the other and characterized in that the user can select to combine audio or video from a first channel from the first tuner with the other of audio or video from the second channel from the second tuner to provide a customized video and audio output.

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Replacement paragraphs for page 3

In a yet further feature of the invention there is provided an electronic program guide which is generated from data received by a broadcast data receiver at continuous or regular intervals, said electronic program guide (EPG) comprising text and other display material which is generated on screen and which text can act both as information for programs and services which are available to the user and selection means to allow the user to select, typically using the remote control device, programs to watch and/or other functions relating to the use of the broadcast data receiver, and wherein the EPG facilitates the user selection of independently controllable tuners in the broadcast data receiver to receive data relating to different channels or user selections.

In a yet further embodiment of the invention, a default teletext can be shown in any channel. For example, if the user likes BBC teletext, if they press a teletext key it will always return the receiver to the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) teletext service instead of the teletext service of the channel which the user may be watching at that time. This can be achieved as the teletext service is an independent entity as with the audio and video. This therefore represents another important

New paragraph and Header to be inserted into Page 4

In one embodiment a user interface can be provided to aid selection of at least two data transmissions and to combine the transmission together. An audio and/or visual indicator can be provided to indicate to the user that there are selectable options available for a particular program and/or on a particular channel. The indicator can be displayed/sounded when a particular program starts or when a user switches to a particular channel.

"DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS";

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New Header to be inserted into Page 5

"DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS".

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New paragraphs for Page 7

the present invention, they will be able to control the second tuner to select, for example, an audio only channel on which a radio program is carried with commentary on the particular football match. Thus, the broadcast data receiver can then strip away audio from the first channel and replace with the audio from the second channel so that the viewer is then provided with a facility to combine the audio data from the second channel with the video data from the first channel to provide a customized video and audio channel which meets their preferences. It is envisaged that the same can also be carried out with regard to storage of the customized channel on a storage means for subsequent viewing and listening.

The visual indicator is typically an icon which is displayed on the display screen of the television set. The icon is displayed when the options for data transmission combination are available and can be shown when a program has started or at a pre-determined period before or when a user switches to channel when the option is available.

New paragraphs for page 8

The broadcaster typically determines whether the option of combining a particular data transmission with one or ore other data transmissions is available for a particular channel or program and the user interface options can be adjusted accordingly.

The user selectable options for data combination can be provided in an electronic program guide display (EPG) and the combination can be made by the user in the EPG display.

New paragraph for page 9

While the invention has been described with a certain degree of particularity, it is manifest that many changes may be made in the details of construction and the arrangement of components without departing from the spirit and scope of this disclosure. It is understood that the invention is not limited to the embodiments set forth herein for purposes of exemplification, but is to be limited only by the scope of the attached claim or claims, including the full range of equivalency to which each element thereof is entitled.

1. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver, said broadcast data receiver comprising: at least two tuners, each of said tuners controllable to receive a user selectable data transmission independent of the other and wherein the user can select to combine the data transmission from the first tuner with the data transmission from the at least second tuner to provide a customized merged data output.
2. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 wherein data transmissions selected are from at least two different data providers.
3. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver according to claim 2 wherein said data transmissions selected relate to the same event.
4. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 wherein one of said data transmissions is data relating to an audio channel and said at least other data transmission is data relating to a video channel.
5. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver according to claim 4 herein the first tuner is controlled to select a channel which has both audio and video components and the second tuner is controlled to select a second channel which has an audio only output, and which audio output can be overlaid to replace the audio output of the first channel, such that a viewer can watch the video output from the first channel in combination with the audio output from the second channel.

6. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 wherein the two data transmissions can be merged for output at the time of selection.

7. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 the two data transmissions can be merged and transmitted to a storage medium/memory in or communicating with the broadcast data receiver.

8. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver according to claim 7 wherein the storage medium can be selected from the group consisting of a hard disk of the receiver, and a video cassette recorder.

9. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 one of said tuners can be selected to receive a data transmission in the form of an internet signal and the data received via the internet signal can be combined with the data transmission from said other tuner.

10. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 wherein the user selectable data transmission are selected from an electronic program guide including text and other matter generated by the broadcast data receiver and relating to program, data and/or service information.

11. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 wherein one of said data transmissions includes a default teletext service relating to a particular channel, and said other data transmission relates to a different channel, such that the default teletext service can be merged with a different channel irrespective of whether there is already a teletext service available for that different channel.

12. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 wherein an audio video receiver decoder is shared in both tuners and the user can selectively chose elementary streams of the data transmission from the group consisting of audio, video and teletext.

13. (Amended) A broadcast data receiver, said broadcast data receiver comprising: at least two tuners, each of said tuners controllable to receive a user selectable video and/or audio channel, independent of the other and wherein the user can select to combine audio or video from a first channel from the first tuner with the other of audio or video from the second channel from the second tuner to provide a customized video and audio output.

14. (Amended) An electronic program guide generated from data received from a broadcast data receiver at continuous or regular intervals, said electronic program guide comprising text and other display material which is generated on screen and which text can act both as information for programs and services which are available to the user and selection means to allow a user to select, typically using a remote control device, programs to watch and/or other functions relating to the use of the broadcast data receiver, wherein the electronic program guide facilitates the user selection of independently controllable tuners in the broadcast data receiver to allow merging of data transmissions relating to different channels or user selections.